

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Amendments to Floodplain Management, Shoreline Municipal Code (SMC) 13.12

2. Name of applicant:

City of Shoreline Planning and Community Development

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Ave N
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905
Andrew Bauer, Senior Planner
206-801-2513
abauer@shorelinewa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared: *May 11, 2020*

5. Agency requesting checklist: *City of Shoreline*

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

A public hearing is scheduled before the Planning Commission for 6/4/20. City Council is anticipated to take action on the proposed amendments in July 2020, in advance of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) becoming effective on 8/19/20.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

None.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

None.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

The Shoreline Planning Commission must issue a recommendation to the City Council on the proposed amendments. The City Council must adopt by ordinance the amendments in order for them to take effect.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this

page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposal will update the Floodplain Management regulations necessary to adopt new FIRMs that will become effective on 8/19/20 as well as to meet the current minimum standards of the NFIP, maintaining the City's membership and allowing property owners and businesses to purchase flood insurance.

A copy of the draft amendments are available at

www.shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/public-works/surface-water-utility/services/floodplain-development-management and also upon request to the City of Shoreline.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The Floodplain Management regulations would apply to all development within the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) within the City. The SFHA is identified on the FIRMs and is generally associated with the Puget Sound shoreline, Boeing Creek, and Thornton Creek (including Ronald Bog and Twin Ponds). See Attachment A for a map of the SFHA.

C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:  _____

Name of signee: *Andrew Bauer*

Position and Agency/Organization: *Senior Planner, City of Shoreline*

Date Submitted: *5/11/2020*

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or

at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposal will update the Floodplain Management regulations which include standards for development within the SFHA and are intended to minimize impacts to the SFHA.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

The regulations continue to require development and associated improvements within the SFHA be flood proofed. Some improvements such as septic systems or storage of hazardous chemicals would be prohibited from being located within the SFHA due to the risk of potential contamination during a flood event.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The Floodplain Management regulations apply to all development within the SFHA and continue to require impacts to habitat be identified and mitigated, where necessary.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

Most new development within the SFHA will continue to require a habitat assessment be prepared and where necessary habitat mitigation measures be incorporated into a development to mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife habitat. Compliance with other overlapping environmental regulations would also be required, where applicable (e.g. Shoreline Management and Critical Areas).

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The proposal will update the Floodplain Management regulations. The proposed amendments are not anticipated to deplete energy or natural resources.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

The regulations prohibit development within the floodway and require development within the floodplain to meet standards for flood protection and minimization and mitigation of impacts to habitat.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The proposal will update the Floodplain Management regulations which apply to all development within the SFHA. The regulations continue to protect impacts to floodplains by requiring new development and improvements to be flood proofed using methods such as elevating structures above base flood elevation and/or designing elements below the base flood elevation to allow floodwaters to freely flow through structures. The requirement for development to prepare a habitat assessment remains a component of the regulations.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

Development in the SFHA will continue to require a habitat assessment be prepared to address potential impacts to habitat and provide appropriate mitigation measures. The regulations also prohibit in the floodway areas and require development in the floodplain be flood proofed using methods such as elevating improvements above the base flood elevation and/or designing improvements below the base flood elevation to withstand floodwaters.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The proposal will update Floodplain Management regulations. The regulations do not change land and/or shoreline uses. The regulations provide standards for development within the SFHA and works in association with the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan and Shoreline Master Program.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

Shoreline and land use impacts are not anticipated.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

The proposal will update Floodplain Management regulations and are not anticipated to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

Increased demands are not anticipated.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The proposal does not conflict with local, state, or federal requirements for the protection of the environment. The amendments include the minimum necessary standards to comply with the NFIP and continues to include the requirement for development within the SFHA to prepare a habitat assessment. The Floodplain Management regulations will continue to apply in addition to other environmental regulations such as Shoreline Management and Critical Areas.